

SECRET

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC 4632-81

24 July 1981

State Dept. review completed

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: [redacted]
National Intelligence Officer for Western Europe

SUBJECT: DCI's Breakfast Meeting with Secretary Haig on 28 July 1981

1. It is our understanding that the Secretary has indicated two topics he would like to raise with you at your meeting: first [redacted] visit to French Foreign Minister Cheysson in anticipation of the latter's impending visit to Central America, and second, Assistant Secretary Crocker's planned bilateral conversations on 31 July on our African concerns.

2. It is our understanding that [redacted] plans to brief Foreign Minister Cheysson in detail on the situation in El Salvador and to seek clarification of the recent decision by the French to honor their standing arms commitments to Libya, while suspending delivery of an order for tanks from Chile. It is to be hoped that a current briefing on the realities of the complex economic and political situation in Central America will convince the French to proceed in a cautious and constructive manner, and to participate in whatever international consortium may be formed to provide a proper mix of economic and political encouragement to the troubled area.

3. Assistant Secretary Crocker has indicated our concern over recent French actions such as their follow-through on arms deliveries contracts with Libya and their indications of a slow approach to Libyan withdrawal from Chad. Assistant Secretary Crocker hopes in his consultations to touch not only on the Chad problem, but also on related issues in that part of Africa, such as Niger, the Central African Republic and Cameroon. He has emphasized that these discussions would be exploratory in nature, and designed to probe French intentions. After such preliminary discussions, we would review our own policies, according to Assistant Secretary Crocker, and communicate our conclusions on these matters to the French government at a later date. It will obviously be extremely useful to probe more deeply French thinking on this important area, and we should encourage every exchange which will enable us better to understand French intentions and reasoning on such matters as arms deliveries to Libya.

SECRET